

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

LEA MARQUEZ PETERSON

SANDRA KENNEDY

JUSTIN OLSON

CHAIRWOMAN

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

JIM O'CONNOR

ANNA TOVAR

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY)
FOR A HEARING TO DETERMINE THE FAIR)
VALUE OF THE UTILITY PROPERTY OF THE)
COMPANY FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES,)
TO FIX A JUST AND REASONABLE RATE OF)
RETURN THEREON, TO APPROVE RATE)
SCHEDULES DESIGNED TO DEVELOP)
SUCH RETURN.)

DOCKET no. E-01345A-19-0236

SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS'
COMMENTS ON RECOMMENDED
OPINION AND ORDER

Solar United Neighbors (referred to herein as "SUN") is following up with additional public support for our past filing in this docket (E000015931) in support of comments by Vote Solar filed in this docket (E000015628) asking the Commission to reject the grid access charge (GAC) for solar customers. SUN collected 97 submissions from Arizonans in support of ending the solar GAC. Eighty-four (84) people signed on to the letter below and thirteen (13) people personalized the letter. The letters and lists of people who signed them are included below.

Solar United Neighbors is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating a clean, equitable, resilient energy system that benefits everyone. Nationally we have helped more than 6,000 homes and businesses add a combined 50 MW of solar, and in Arizona we have helped

1 more than 230 people add solar to their homes and small businesses including dozens in APS
2 territory. We have 8000 supporters in APS territory.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration of the
4 recommendation to end the unjustified GAC for solar customers.

5
6 Sincerely,

7 

8 Liz Veazey

9 Policy & Rural Energy Director

10 Solar United Neighbors

11
12 **Letter and 84 signers:**

13 Dear Commissioners,

14 I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar
15 owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable,
16 which reduces the need for costly upgrades.

17
18 APS solar customers currently pay roughly \$80 per year for an average solar system. For those
19 with larger systems, the cost can be more than \$100 per year. This charge not only makes going
20 solar less affordable, it's also not justified.

21
22 An independent judge overseeing the rate case found no evidence that solar customers
23 increase costs to other ratepayers. Despite the fact that solar customers actually pay more than
24 their share of solar system costs, the grid access fee still stands. Without evidence to justify the
25 fee, APS should not seek a grid access charge.

26
27 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
28 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.

1

2 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
3 take on this matter.

4

5 Best,

6

7	Jacob Abel	Flagstaff	AZ	86004
8	Stephen	Amdor Sun City West	AZ	85375
9	John Artus	Flagstaff	AZ	86001
10	Jackeline Ayala	Youngtown	AZ	85363
11	Adarsh Ayyar	Paradise Valley	AZ	85253
12	Rev Bartels	Sun City	AZ	85351
13	Mary Betcher	Cornville	AZ	86325
14	Frank Blinco	Casa Grande	AZ	85122
15	Michael Bond	Scottsdale	AZ	85250
16	Timothy Bowers	Flagstaff	AZ	86004
17	Michael Campbell	Prescott	AZ	86301
18	Virgil Cannon	Casa Grande	AZ	85122
19	Brendan Carey	Phoenix	AZ	85014
20	Steve Chambers	Surprise	AZ	85374
21	James Cummins	Sun City West	AZ	85375
22	Andy Davitt	Peoria	AZ	85383
23	Dawnee DeMary	Chandler	AZ	85225
24	Russell Dickerson	Flagstaff	AZ	86001
25	EVERETT DUNNICK	Sun City West	AZ	85375
26	Danny Durbin	Sun City	AZ	85351
27	Camille Eliason	Sun City	AZ	85351
28	DONALD FANNING	Flagstaff	AZ	86001
29	Elizabeth Ferguson	Flagstaff	AZ	86001

1	John Forsythe	Flagstaff	AZ	86001
2	Loren Froehlich	Goodyear	AZ	85395
3	Jo Grijalva	Phoenix	AZ	85023
4	Bernadette Gusich	Sun City West	AZ	85375
5	David Hass	Phoenix	AZ	85032
6	Edward Herrera	Phoenix	AZ	85022
7	Cheryl Hupalo	Sun City West	AZ	85375
8	Jim Jepson	Florence	AZ	85132
9	Robert Johansson	Goodyear	AZ	85338
10	Diane Kent	Scottsdale	AZ	85254
11	Rodney Kirkham	Peoria	AZ	85345
12	George Koch	Peoria	AZ	85382
13	Collette Latimer	Bisbee	AZ	85603
14	Michael Lee	Peoria	AZ	85383
15	Carole Lucy	Scottsdale	AZ	85266
16	John Macheca	Wickenburg	AZ	85390
17	Julie Madden	Sun City	AZ	85351
18	Michael Magonigal	Prescott	AZ	86301
19	John Maxie	Mesa	AZ	85204
20	Clarice Mendoza	Yuma	AZ	85364
21	Gerry Milliken	Cottonwood	AZ	86326
22	Gary Morgan	Sedona	AZ	86336
23	Mary MPenman	Surprise	AZ	85387
24	Ervin Mrotek	Cottonwood	AZ	86326
25	John Mulkey	Glendale	AZ	85310
26	Richard Naden	Scottsdale	AZ	85266
27	Mark Nelson	Sun City West	AZ	85375
28	Donald Nembhard	Goodyear	AZ	85338
29	Richard Parry	Sun City	AZ	85351

1	Donald Paterson	Yuma	AZ	85367
2	Glen Piskula	Yuma	AZ	85365
3	Karen Porter	Mayer	AZ	86333
4	Adrienne Pritchard	Cornville	AZ	86325
5	Deborah Rash	Yuma	AZ	85364
6	Dale Ratzlaff	Camp Verde	AZ	86322
7	Dan Riordan	Prescott	AZ	86303
8	Blanca Rivera	Sun City	AZ	85351
9	Eunice Roberts	Sun City West	AZ	85375
10	Diana Rowell	Florence	AZ	85132
11	Darold Rucker	El Mirage	AZ	85335
12	Jaroslav Saikewicz	Scottsdale	AZ	85254
13	Leonard Scott	Phoenix	AZ	85027
14	Vijay Sheldan	Scottsdale	AZ	85254
15	Kathy Shores	Tempe	AZ	85281
16	Sukhmani Singh	Peoria	AZ	85383
17	Walter Siodlarz	Sun City West	AZ	85375
18	Ruth Slaughter	Yuma	AZ	85365
19	Dale Taylor	Goodyear	AZ	85395
20	Scott Trammell	Paradise Valley	AZ	85253
21	Siobhan Ulreich-Power	Scottsdale	AZ	85258
22	Terrence Vineys	Prescott Valley	AZ	86314
23	Terrence Webb	Surprise	AZ	85387
24	Carol Weinrich	Prescott Valley	AZ	86315
25	Glen Wetzel	Surprise	AZ	85374
26	Herbert Wohlf	Peoria	AZ	85382
27	Barbara Wood	Prescott	AZ	86305
28	Vittorio Zammarano	Phoenix	AZ	85024
29	Matthew Ziegler	Flagstaff	AZ	86005

1	Stuart Tuttle	Parks	AZ	86018
2	Reuben Colton	Cottonwood	AZ	86326
3	Sheila Cowden	Scottsdale	AZ	85259

4

5

6 **Thirteen Personalized Letters**

7 Dear Commissioners,

8 I live in Flagstaff and own two houses with rooftop solar. I'm writing to ask you to remove the
9 grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar owners to pay. A judge, after reviewing
10 data, has determined this additional fee for grid tied customers who produce their own
11 renewable electricity is not justified. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric
12 grids more reliable, which reduces the need for costly upgrades.

13

14 APS solar customers currently pay roughly \$80 per year for an average solar system. For those
15 with larger systems, the cost can be more than \$100 per year. This charge not only makes going
16 solar less affordable, it's also not justified.

17

18 An independent judge overseeing the rate case found no evidence that solar customers
19 increase costs to other ratepayers. Despite the fact that solar customers actually pay more than
20 their share of solar system costs, the grid access fee still stands. Without evidence to justify the
21 fee, APS should not seek a grid access charge.

22

23 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
24 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.

25

26 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
27 take on this matter.

28

29 Best,

David Spence
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

To Whom it may concern,

I support the reduction of the additional fee that APS currently charges those households using APS as their provider. According to a recent court ruling the additional charges are not needed to equalize use. Please vote to reduce this unnecessary additional fee.

Thank for your time and I look forward to hearing from you,

John Walker
Buckeye, AZ 85396

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of solar power is to end reliance on the devastating effects of fossil fuel and climate change AND lower utility costs.

Do you have any idea how difficult it is for families and individuals on a tight budget to afford and pay utility bills??? Apparently NOT!

Individuals on a fixed income cannot afford the unreasonable and inexcusable utility costs.

The greed of APS and the reality of fearless expensive solar is not in the best interest. APS will do all it can to stop affordable solar power. DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN!

1 Why should APS make it harder for customers to go solar? The answer is obvious. With
2 unjustified fees no less. FO NOT ALLOW APS TO CHARGE UNJUSTIFIED FEES! Solar owners must
3 be treated fairly and people should not be at the mercy of the greed of APS.

4 Do you know what it's like to not be able to afford APS electricity bills? I do! I have to run my
5 summer utilities on a very tight budget which means I do not use much electricity and suffer
6 through the heat. IS THIS FAIR? IS THIS MORAL?

7
8 I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar
9 owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable,
10 which reduces the need for costly upgrades.

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19 fee, APS should not seek a grid access charge.

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21 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
22 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.

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24 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
25 take on this matter.

26
27 Best,

28 Anthony Ostrow

29 Superior AZ 85173

1
2
3 Dear Commissioners,

4 Common sense demands that you remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces
5 solar owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more
6 reliable, which reduces the need for costly upgrades.

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20 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
21 take on this matter.

22
23 Best,

24 Louise Stark

25 Phoenix AZ 85007
26

27
28 Dear Commissioners,

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2 owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable,
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14 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
15 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.

16
17 If you really are a proponent of the environment then why would you make it more challenging
18 for homeowners to generate their own electricity. It is already disgusting that APS and another
19 power companies can pay so little for the power I'm providing from my own home system, and
20 can then turn around and use that same energy to make a profit. Why don't I just turn my own
21 house into a power company and they charge all the ridiculous fees myself. We should be
22 restricting the profits that power companies make off of homeowner solar production, not the
23 other way around.

24
25 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
26 take on this matter.

27
28 Best,

29 Joshua Ferguson

1 Flagstaff AZ 86001

2
3
4 Dear Commissioners,

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6 owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable,
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18 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
19 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.

20
21 At a time when all of us should be contributing to using less fossil fuels, solar for homeowners is
22 a simple and more affordable way to help. Please remove this unnecessary fee.

23
24 Best,

25 Kevin Brown

26 Flagstaff AZ 86004

27
28
29 Dear Commissioners,

1 I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar
2 owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable,
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14 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
15 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.
16 My solar is new and I barely save money at the start of this. However I am try8ng to avoid these
17 large increases in my retirement. I retired in 2018 and APS try8ng to grab more dollars is very
18 unfair.

19
20 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
21 take on this matter.

22 Best,

23 Janiece St Cyr

24 Peoria AZ 85381

25
26
27 Dear Commissioners,

28 I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar
29 owners to pay.

1
2 APS should not be allowed to act as a monopoly and force unfair charges on solar panel owners
3 as that is against the free market and fairness values we have.

4
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6 with larger systems, the cost can be more than \$100 per year. This charge not only makes going
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17 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
18 take on this matter.

19
20 Best,
21 Katrina Redmon
22 Guadalupe AZ 85283
23

24
25 Dear Commissioners,
26 I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar
27 owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable,
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8 fee, APS should not seek a grid access charge.

9
10 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
11 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.
12 Solar customers are looking forward, attempting to ameliorate climate change, which the ACC
13 should be supporting, not penalizing.

14
15 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
16 take on this matter.

17
18 Best,
19 Rebecca Haynes
20 Dewey AZ 86327

21
22
23 Dear Commissioners,

24
25 I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar
26 owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable,
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8 fee, APS should not seek a grid access charge.

9
10 Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you
11 to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee. As a
12 country, as a world, we are facing the harsh realities of climate change. One way we can reduce
13 the effects of climate change is encouraging the use of non-polluting energy such as solar. One
14 of our state's greatest natural resources is sunlight. Let's encourage more people to use it by
15 lessening any prohibitive costs that APS wants to add to it. For the good of our state, for the
16 good of our country, for the good of our entire world, please make solar energy a greater
17 option for everyone!!

18
19 Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will
20 take on this matter.

21
22 Best,
23 Neal Paul
24 Scottsdale AZ 85258

25
26
27
28 Dear Commissioners,

I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge Arizona Public Service forces solar owners to pay. Solar energy lowers costs, creates jobs, and makes electric grids more reliable, which reduces the need for costly upgrades.

APS solar customers currently pay roughly \$80 per year for an average solar system. For those with larger systems, the cost can be more than \$100 per year. This charge not only makes going solar less affordable, it's also not justified.

An independent judge overseeing the rate case found no evidence that solar customers increase costs to other ratepayers. Despite the fact that solar customers actually pay more than their share of solar system costs, the grid access fee still stands. Without evidence to justify the fee, APS should not seek a grid access charge.

Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you to support this. APS solar customers should not be expected to pay this discriminatory fee.

Thank you for reading my letter. I'm looking forward to hearing about the next steps you will take on this matter.

Their (APS) reasoning that more home solar generators means less for them to sell is bogus since most of us do not produce more than we use so it leaves more room for APS to expand elsewhere thus increasing their revenue.

Best,

Mark Skinner

Florence AZ 85132

Dear Commissioners,

1 I just got my October, 2021 APS bill.

2
3 According to APS, I bought 473 kWh (On-Peak - 73 kWh) from APS. I sold to APS 641 kWh (all at
4 off-peak rates but 76 during on-peak times).

5
6 Obviously I sold many more kWh's to APS than what I bought from them.

7
8 Yet I owe APS \$25.62 despite selling more kWh's to APS (641 kWh's) than what we bought from
9 APS (473 kWh's). There is \$83.47 of fees, etc. that APS adds on (includes my cost of buying
10 kWh's from APS), taxes of \$9.13 less my solar credit of \$66.98.

11
12 Makes me wonder why I installed Solar this past January?

13
14 Best,

15 Lawrence Leach

16 Surprise AZ 85374
17

18
19
20 Dear Commissioners,

21
22 Installing solar on residential homes is one important part of a long list of ways to help guard
23 against the worst of climate change. I'm writing to ask you to remove the grid access charge
24 that APS charges solar owners so that more people are incentivized, not punished, to go solar.
25 Our rooftop solar generates enough electricity for our home, but because batteries are so cost
26 prohibitive, we must stay on the APS grid.

27
28 The judge overseeing the rate case found no evidence that solar customers incur additional
29 costs to APS. In fact, when APS customers use PV it makes electric grids more reliable and

reduces the need for costly upgrades. Despite the fact that solar customers actually pay more than their share of solar system costs, the grid access fee still stands. Without evidence to justify the fee, APS should not seek a grid access charge.

Commissioner Kennedy introduced an amendment to remove the charge and I encourage you to support this. Anything to help incentivize things like rooftop solar is the best decision as we see the effects of climate change increase.

Best,

Crystal Graziano

Flagstaff AZ 86001